THE Earle of Gowries

Conſpiracie againſt the Kings Maieſtie.

At Saint Johnſtoun vpon Tueſday the fift day of Auguſt : And in the ſixteenth hundred yeare of *our Lord God.*

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1603

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A Diſcourſe, of the vnnaturall and *vile conſpiracie, attempted againſt his* Maieſties perſon at Saint Iohnſtoun, vpon *the fift day of Auguſt being Tueſday.* 1600.

Is Maieſtie hauing his reſidence at *Falkland*, and being dayly at the Bucke-hunting (as his vſe is in that ſeaſon) vpon the fift day of *Auguſt*, being Tueſday, he raide out to the Parke, betwixt ſixe and ſeauen of the clocke in the morning, the weather being woonderfull pleaſant and ſeaſonable. But before his Maieſty coulde leape on horſe backe, his Highneſſe being now come downe by the equery: all the Huntſ-men with hownds attending his Maieſtie on the Greene, & the Court making to their horſes, as his Highneſſe ſelfe was: maiſter *Alexander Ruthwen*, ſecond brother to the late earle of *Gowry*, being then lighted in the towne of *Falkland*, haſted him faſt downe to ouertake his maieſtie before his on-leaping, as hee did. Where meeting his Highneſſe, after a very lowe curteſie, bowing his head vnder his Maieſties knee, (although he was neuer wont to make ſo lowe curteſie) drawing his Maieſtie aparte, hee beginnes to diſcourſe vnto him (with a very deiected countenaunce, his

eyes euer fixed vpon the earth) how that it chanced him in the euening before, to be walking abroad about the fields, taking the ayre ſolitarie alone, without the Towne of Saint *Iohnſtoun*, where his preſent dwelling with the Lord his brother was: and there, by accident, affirmed to haue recountred a baſe-like fellow, vnknowne to him, with a cloake caſt about his mouth: whome as he enquired his name, and what his errand was to be paſſing in ſo ſolitary a parte, being from all wayes: the fellow became on a ſodaine ſo amazed, and his tongue ſo faultred in his mouth, that vppon his ſuſpitious behauior he begunne more narrowly to looke vnto him, and examine him: and perceiuing that there appeared ſome thing to be hidde vnder his cloake, he did caſt by the lappes of it, and ſo findes a great wide pot to be vnder his arme, all full of coyned golde in great peeces, aſſuring his Maieſty that it was in very great quantity. Vpon the ſight wherof (as he affirmed) hee tooke backe the fellow with the burthen to the Towne, where he priuately, without the knowledge of any man, tooke the fellow, and bound him in a priuie derned houſe: and after locked many doores vppon him, and left him there, and his pot with him, and had haſted himſelfe out of Saint *Iohnſtoun* that day by foure houres in the morning, to make his Maieſty aduertiſed thereof, according to his bound duety: earneſtly requeſting his Maieſtie with all diligence and ſecrecie, that his Maieſty might take order therewith, before any did know thereof; ſwearing, and proteſting, that he had yet concealed it from all men: yea, from the Earle his owne brother. His Maieſties firſt anſwere was (after thanking him for his good will) that it could not become his maieſty to meddle any wayes in that matter, ſince no mans treaſure that is a free and lawefull ſubiect, can by the Lawe appertaine vnto the King, except it be found hid vnder the earth, as this was not. Whereunto he anſwered, that the fellow confeſſed vnto him, that he was going to haue hidde it vnder the ground, but he could

could not take leaſure at that time to enquire any further of him. Wherevnto the King replied, that there was great difference betwixt a deede, and the intention of a deede: his intention to haue hidde it, not being alike as if it had beene found already hidde. Maiſter *Alexanders* anſwer was, that hee thought his maieſtie ouer ſcrupulous in ſuch a matter, tending ſo greatly to his maieſties profite: and that if his maieſtie deferred to meddle with it, that it might be, that the lord his brother, and other great men might meddle with it, and make his maieſtie the more adoe. Wherevpon the King beginning to ſuſpect that it had bin ſome forraine gold brought home by ſome Ieſuites for practiſing Papiſtes (therewith to ſtirre vp ſome new ſedition, as they haue oftentimes done before) inquired of the ſaide maiſter *Alexander*, what kinde of coyne it was, and what a fellowe hee was that carried it. His anſwere was, that ſo farre as hee could take leaſure to ſee of them, that they ſeemed to be forraine ſtrokes of coyne, and although the fellow, both by his language and faſhions ſeemed to be a Scots fellow, yet he could neuer remember that he had ſeene him before. Theſe ſpeaches encreaſed his maieſties ſuſpition, that it was forraine coyne, brought in by ſome practiſing Papiſtes, and to be deſtributed into the Country, as is before ſaide: and that the fellow that carried it, was ſome Scots Prieſt, or Seminary ſo diſguiſed, for the more ſure tranſporting thereof.

Wherevpon his maieſty reſolued that he would ſend backe with the ſaide maiſter *Alexander*, a ſeruant of his owne, with a warrant to the Prouoſt and Bailiffes of Saint *Iohnſtoun*, to receiue both the fellow and the money at maiſter *Alexanders* hand, and after they had examined the fellow, to retaine him and the treaſure, till his maieſties further pleaſure was knowne.

Whereat the ſaide maiſter *Alexander* ſtirred maruellouſly: affirming and proteſting, that if either the Lord his bro-

ther, or the Bailiffes of the Towne were putte on the counſaile thereof: his maieſtie woulde gette a very badde count made to him of that treaſure, ſwearing that the great loue and affection hee bare vnto his maieſtie, had made him to preferre his maiesty in this caſe, both before himſelfe and his brother. For the which ſeruice hee humbly craued that recompence, that his maieſtie would take the paines once to ride thither, that hee might be the firſt ſeer thereof himſelfe: which being done, hee would remitte to his maieſties owne honourable diſcretion, how farre it would pleaſe his maieſtie to conſider vpon him for that ſeruice.

His Highneſſe beeing ſtricken in great admiration, both of the vncouthneſſe of the tale, and of the ſtrange and ſtupide behauiour of the Reporter: and the Court being already horſed, wondering at his maieſties ſo long ſtay with that Gentleman, the morning being ſo faire, the game already found, and the Huntſmen ſo long ſtaying in the fieldes for his maieſtie: he was forced to breake off onely with theſe words, that he could not now ſtay any longer from his ſporte, but that he would conſider of the matter, and at the end of his chaſe, giue him a reſolute anſwere, what order hee woulde take therein. Wherevpon his Maieſtie parted in haſte from him towardes the place where the game was.

Maiſter *Alexander* parting from his maieſtie very miſcontent, that indelayedly he raide not to Saint *Johnſtoun*, as hee deſired him: proteſting that his Maieſty would not finde euery day ſuch a choice of hunting, as he had offered to him, and that hee feared that his Maieſties long delay and ſloweneſſe of reſolution, would breede leaſure to the fellowe, who was lying bound, to cry, or make ſuch dinne, as would diſappoynt the ſecrecie of that whole purpoſe, and make both the fellowe and the treaſure to be meddled with, before any word could come from his maieſtie, as alſo, that his brother would miſſe him, in reſpect of his abſence that morning, which

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if his maieſty had pleaſed to haſte, hee might haue preuented: ariuing there in the time of his brothers, and the whole towns being at the Sermon: whereby his maieſtie might haue taken ſuch ſecret order with that matter, as he pleaſed, before their out-comming from the Church. But his maieſtie, without any further anſwering him, leaping on horſe backe, and riding to the dogges, where they were beginning to hunt, the ſaide maiſter *Alexander* ſtayed ſtill in that place where he left his maieſtie: and hauing two men with him, appoynted by the Earle his brother, to carry backe vnto him the certaine newes in all haſte, of his maieſties comming (as heere after more particularly ſhall in this ſame Diſcourſe be declared.)

Hee directed the one of them called *Andrew Henderſoun*, Chamberlaine to the ſaide Earle, to ride in all haſte to the Earle, commaunding him, as hee loued his brothers honour, that he ſhould not ſpare for ſpilling of his horſe, and that he ſhould aduertiſe the Earle, that he hoped to mooue his maieſtie to come thither, and that he ſhould not yet looke for him, the ſpace of three houres thereafter, becauſe of his maieſties hunting, adding theſe wordes: Pray my Lord my brother, to prepare the dinner for vs. But his maieſtie was no ſooner ridden vppe to a little hill aboue the litle wood, where the dogges were laide on in hunting: but that notwithſtanding the pleaſant beginning of the chaſe, hee could not ſtay from muſing and wondering vpon the newes. Whereupon without making any body acquainted with this purpoſe, finding *John Neſmith* Chirurgian, by chaunce riding beſides him, his Maieſtie directed him backe, to bring maiſter *Alexander* with him: who being brought vnto his maieſtie, and hauing newly directed, as ſaide is, one of his men that was with him, backe to my Lorde his brother, his maieſty vnknowing or ſuſpecting that any man liuing had come with him, then tolde him that he had beene aduiſing with himſelfe, and in reſpect of his laſt wordes ſo earneſt with him, hee reſolued to ride thither

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for that arrand in his owne perſon, how ſoone the chaſe was ended, which was already begunne. Like as his Maieſtie, vpon the very ending of theſe wordes, did ride away in the chaſe, the ſaide maiſter *Alexander* following him at his backe, no other creature being with his Highneſſe, but hee, and *Iohn Hamilton* of *Grange*, one of his Maieſties maiſter-ſtablers, the reſt of the Court being all before in the chaſe, his Maieſtie onely being caſt backe, vpon the ſtaying to ſpeake with maiſter *Alexander*, as is before ſaid.

The chaſe laſted from about ſeauen of the clocke in the morning, vntill eleauen, and more, being one of the greateſt and ſoreſt Chaſes that euer his Maieſty was at: all which time the ſayde maiſter *Alexander* was (for the moſt part) euer at his Maieſties backe, as is ſayde. But there neuer was any ſtop in the chaſe, or ſo ſmall a delay, that the ſaide maiſter *Alexander* omitted to round his Maieſtie, earneſtly requeſting him to haſten the end of the hunting, that hee might ride the ſooner to Saint *Iohnſtoun*: So as at the death of the Bucke, his Maieſty, not ſtaying vpon the curry of the Diere, (as his vſe is) ſcarcely tooke time to alight, awayting vpon the comming of a freſh horſe to ride on, the greatneſſe of the chaſe hauing wearied his horſe.

But the ſaide maiſter *Alexander* would not ſuffer the King to ſtay in the Parke where the Bucke was killed, while his freſh horſe, which was already ſent for, was brought out of the equery to him, (although it was not two flight ſhoote off betwixt the Parke where the Bucke was killed, and his Maieſties equery:) but with very importunitie forced his Maieſtie to leape on againe vpon that ſame horſe, that hee had hunted all the day vpon, his freſh horſe being made to gallop a mile of the way to ouertake him: his Maieſty not ſtaying ſo much as vpon his ſword, not while the Duke and the Earle of *Marre*, with diuerſe other Gentlemen in his companie had changed their horſe: onely ſaying vnto them, that hee

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was to ride to ſaint *Iohnſtoun* to ſpeake with the Earle of *Gowrie*, and that he would be preſently backe againe before euen.

Whereuppon ſome of the Court gallopped backe to *Falkland* as faſt as they could, to change their horſes, but could not ouertake his Maieſtie, vntill hee came within foure miles of Saint *Iohnſtoun*. Others rode forward with their horſes, wearied as they were, whereof ſome were compelled to alight by the way, and had they not both refreſhed their horſes, fed them, and giuen them ſome graſſe by the way, they had not carried them to Saint *Iohnſtoun*. The cauſe of his maieſties ſeruants following ſo faſt, vndeſired by him, was onely grounded vpon a ſuſpition they had conceiued, that his maieſties intention of riding, was for the apprehenſion of the maſter *Olephant*, one who had late laide downe a vile and prowd oppreſſion in *Angus*; for repairing of the which, they thought his maieſty had ſome purpoſe for his apprehenſion.

But the ſaide maiſter *Alexander* ſeeing the Duke and the earle of *Marre*, with diuerſe of the Court, getting freſh horſe to followe his maieſtie, earneſtly deſired him, that hee would publiſh to his whole traine, that ſince hee was to returne the ſame euening, as is afore-ſaid, they needed not to follow him, eſpecially that hee thought it meeteſt his maieſty ſhould ſtay the duke and the earle of *Marre* to follow him, and that hee ſhould only take three or foure of his owne ſeruants with him, affirming, that if any noble man followed him, hee could not anſwer for it, but that they would marre that whole purpoſe. Whereuppon his maieſty halfe angry replied, that hee would not miſtruſt the Duke, nor the Earle in a greater purpoſe then that, and that he could not vnderſtand what hinderance anie man could make in that errand.

But theſe laſt ſpeeches of maiſter *Alexanders*, made the King to beginne to ſuſpect what it ſhould meane: whereupon many and ſundry thoughts beganne to enter into the Kings minde: yet his maieſtie could neuer ſuſpect any harme to bee

intended againſt his Highneſſe by that young Gentleman, with whome his Maieſtie had beene ſo well acquainted, as he had, not long before, beene in ſuit to be one of the Gentlemen of his Chamber: ſo as, the farthest that the Kings ſuſpition could reach to, was, that it might be that the Earle his brother had handled him ſo hardly, that the yong gentleman, being of a high ſpirite, had taken ſuch diſpleaſure, as hee was become ſomewhat beſide himſelfe, which his Maieſty coniectured, as well by his raiſed and vncouth ſtaring, and continual penſiueneſſe all the time of the hunting, as likewiſe, by ſuch ſtrange ſorte of vnlikely diſcourſes, as are already mentioned.

Whereupon the king tooke occaſion to make the Duke of *Lennox* acquainted with the whole purpoſe, enquiring of him very earneſtly, what he knew of that yoong Gentlemans nature, being his brother in law: and if hee had perceiued him to be ſubiect to any high apprehenſion, his Maieſty declaring his ſuſpition plainely to the ſaid Lord Duke, that he thought him not wel ſettled in his wits: always deſiring my lord Duke, not to faile to accompany him into that houſe, where the aleaged fellow and treaſure was.

The lord Duke wondered much at that purpoſe, and thought it very likely: yet he affirmed that hee could neuer perceiue any ſuch appearance in that gentlemans inclination. But maiſter *Alexander* perceiuing his Maieſties priuie conference with the Duke, and ſuſpecting the purpoſe, as it appeared, came to the King, requeſting his Maieſtie very earneſtly, hee ſhoulde make none liuing acquainted with that purpoſe, nor ſuffer none to go with his Maieſtie where he ſhould conuoy him but himſelfe onely, till his maieſty had once ſeene the fellow and the treaſure; whereunto his maieſty halfe laughing, gaue anſwere, that he was no good teller of mony, & behoued therefore to haue ſome to helpe him in that errand: his replie was, that he would ſuffer none to ſee it but his Maieſties ſelf at the firſt, but afterward he might call in whom he pleaſed.

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Theſe ſpeeches did ſo increaſe his ſuſpition, that then hee beganne directly to ſuſpect ſome treaſonable deuiſe. Yet many ſuſpitions and thoughts ouerwhelming one euery one another in his minde, his maieſtie could reſolue vpon no certaine thing, but rode further on his iourney, betwixt truſt and diſtruſt, being aſhamed to ſeem to ſuſpect, in reſpect of the cleanneſſe of his Maieſties owne conſcience, except hee had found ſome greater ground. Maiſter *Alexander* ſtill preaſing the King to ride faſter, though his owne horſe was ſcarcely able to keepe company with the King for wearines, hauing ridden with him all the chaſe before. The King being come two mile from *Falkeland*, maiſter *Alexander* ſtayed alittle behinde the King in the way, and poſted away the other ſeruant *Andrew Ruthven* to the Earle his brother, aduertiſing him how farre the King was on his way to come thither. Then how ſoone ſoeuer the King came within a mile of *Iohnſtoun*, hee ſaide to his Maieſtie, that he would poſt in before, to aduertiſe the earle his brother of his Maieſties comming: who at his incomming to him, was ſitting at the midſt of his dinner, neuer ſeeming to take knowledge of the Kings comming, til his brother told it him, notwithſtanding that two of his ſeruaunts had aduertiſed him thereof before. And immediately vpon his brothers report, riſing in haſte from the boord, and warning all the ſeruants and friends to accompanie him to meete his Maieſtie, who met him with three or foure ſcore men, at the end of the Inſhe, his Maieſties whole traine not exceeding the number of fifteene perſons, and all without any kinde of armour, except ſwordes, no not ſo much as daggers or whingeirs. His Maieſtie ſtayed an houre after his comming to the ſaid Earles lodging in Saint *Iohnſtoun* before his dinner came in. The long ſomneſſe of preparing the ſame, and badnes of the cheere being excuſed vpon the ſodaine comming of his Maieſty vnlooked for there.

During which time, his Maieſtie enquired of maiſter *A-*

lexander, when it was time for him to go to that priuate houſe, about that matter whereof he had informed him, who anſwered, that all was ſure enough, but that there was no haſte yet for an houre, till the King had dined at leiſure. Praying his maieſty to leaue him, and not to be ſeene to round with him before his Brother, who hauing miſſed him that morning, might thereuppon ſuſpect what the matter ſhould meane. Therefore his maieſtie addreſſed him to the Earle, & diſcourſed with him vpon ſundry matters, but could get no direct anſwer of him, but halfe words, and imperfect ſentences.

His maieſtie being ſet downe to his dinner, the ſaide Earle ſtood very penſiue, & with a deiected countenance at the end of his maieſties table, oft rounding ouer his ſhoulder, one while to one of his ſeruants, and another while to another: and oft times went out and in to the chamber. Which forme of behauiour he likewiſe kept before the Kings ſitting downe to dinner: but without any welcomming of his maieſtie, or anie other hearty forme of entertainement. The nob'emen and Gentlemen of the Court that were with his maieſtie ſtanding about the table, and not deſired to dine (as the vſe is when his maieſty is once ſet down, and his firſt ſeruice brought vp) vntill his maieſty had almoſt dined. At which time the earle conueyed them forth to their dinner, but ſate not down with them himſelfe (as the common manner is) but came backe and ſtood ſilent at the end of the Kings table, as hee did before: which his maieſty perceiuing, beganne to entertaine the Earle in a homely manner, wondring hee had not remained to dine with his gueſts, and entertaine them there.

His maieſty being ready to riſe from the Table, and all his ſeruants in the Hall at their dinner, maiſter *Alexander* ſtanding behinde his maieſties backe, pulled quietly vppon him, rounding in his maieſties eare, that it was time to goe, but that he would faine haue beene quit of the Earle his Brother, wiſhing the King to ſend him out into the Hall, to entertaine his

his gueſts: whereuppon the King called for drinke, and in a merry and homely maner ſaid to the earle, that although the earle had ſeene the faſhion of entertainement in other countries, yet he would teach him the Scottiſh faſhion, ſeeing hee was a Scottiſh man: and therefore ſince he had forgotten to drinke to his Maieſty, or ſitte with his gueſts and entertaine them, his maieſtie would drincke to him his owne welcome, deſiring him to take it forth and drinke to the reſt of the company, and in his maieſties name to make them welcome. Whereuppon as he went foorth his maieſtie roſe from the table, and deſired maiſter *Alexander* to bring ſir *Thomas Erſkine* with him: who deſiring the King to goe forward with him, and promiſing that he ſhould make any one or two follow him that he pleaſed to call for, deſiring his maieſtie to commaund publikely that none ſhould followe him. Thus the King accompanied onely with the ſaide maiſter *Alexander*, comes foorth of the chamber, paſſeth through the end of the Hall, where the noble men and his maieſties ſeruantes were ſitting at their dinner, vp a turne-pecke, and through three or foure Chambers, the ſaide maiſter *Alexander* euer locking behinde him euery doore as he paſſed: and then with a more ſmiling countenance than he had all the day before, euer ſaying, hee had him ſure and ſafe enough kept: vntill at the laſt, his maieſty paſſing through three or foure ſundrie houſes, and all the doores locked behinde him, his maieſtie entered into a little ſtudie, where he ſawe ſtanding with a very abaſed countenance, not a bond man, but a free man, with a dagger at his girdle. But his maieſtie had no ſooner entred into that little ſtudy, and maiſter *Alexander* with him, but maiſter *Alexander* locked the ſtudy doore behinde him, and at that inſtant changing his countenance, putting his hatte on his head, and drawing the dagger from that other mans girdle, held the poynt of it to the kings breaſt, auowing now, that the King behooued to be in his will, and vſed as he liſt:

ſwearing many bloody oths, that if the King cried one word, or opened a window to look out, that dagger ſhould preſently goe to his heart: affirming, that he was ſure, that nowe the Kings conſcience was burthened for murthering his father. His maiſtie wondring at ſo ſodaine an alteration, and ſtanding naked, without any kinde of armour but his hunting horne, which he had not gotten leiſure to lay from him, betwixt theſe two Traitors which had conſpired his life: the ſaid maiſter *Alexander* ſtanding (as is ſaide) with a dagger in his hand, and his ſword at his ſide: but the other trembling & quaking, rather like one condemned, than an executioner of ſuch an enterpriſe.

His maieſtie begun then to dilate to the ſaid maſter *Alexander*, how horrible a thing it was for him to meddle with his maieſties innocent blood, aſſuring him it would not be vnreuenged, ſince God had giuen him children and good ſubiects, and if they neither, yet God would raiſe vp ſtocks and ſtones, to puniſh ſo vile a deede.

Proteſting before God, that he had no burthen in his conſcience for the execution of his father: both in reſpect that at the time of his fathers execution, his maieſtie was but a *minor* of age, and guided at that time by a faction which ouer-ruled both his maieſtie, and the reſt of the country: as alſo that whatſoeuer was done to his Father, it was done by the ordinary courſe of Law and Iuſtice.

Appealing the ſaid maſter *Alexander* vpon his conſcience how well he at all times ſince had deſerued at the hands of all his race, not onely hauing reſtored them to all their lands and dignities; but alſo in nouriſhing & bringing vp of two or three of his ſiſters, as it were in his owne boſome, by a continuall attendance vppon his maieſties deereſt bedfellow in her priuie chamber.

Laying alſo before him, the terrors of his conſcience, eſpecially, that he made profeſſion, according to his education, of the

the ſame religion which his Maieſtie had euer profeſſed: and namely, his Maieſty remembred him of that holy man, maiſter *Robert Rollocke*, whoſe ſcholler he was, aſſuring him, that one day the ſaide maiſter *Roberts* ſoule would accuſe him, that he had neuer learned of him to practiſe ſuch vnnatural cruelty. His Maieſty promiſing to him, on the word of a Prince, that if he would ſpare his life, and ſuffer him to goe out againe, hee woulde neuer reueale to any fleſh liuing, what was betwixt them at that time, nor neuer ſuffer him to incurre any harme or puniſhment for the ſame.

But his Maieſties feare was, that he could hope for no ſparing at his hands hauing ſuch cruelty in his lookes, and ſtanding ſo irreuerently couered, with his hat on, which forme of rigorous behauiour, could prognoſticate nothing to his Maieſtie, but preſent extreamity. But at his Maieſties perſwaſiue language, he appeared to be ſomewhat amazed, and vncouering his head againe, ſwore and proteſted that his Maieſties life ſhould be ſafe, if he would behaue himſelf quietly, without making noyſe or crying: and that he would only bring in the Earle his brother to ſpeake with his Maieſty: whereupon his Maieſty enquiring what the Earle would doe with him, ſince (if his Maieſties life were ſafe according to promiſe) they could gaine little in keeping ſuch a priſoner. His anſwer only was, that he could tell his Maieſty no more, but that his life ſhould be ſafe, in caſe hee behaued himſelfe quietly, the reſt, the Earle his brother, whome hee was going for, would tell his Maieſty at his comming. With that, as he was going forth for his brother, as he affirmed, he turned him about to the other man, ſaying theſe wordes vnto him, I make you heere the Kings keeper, till I come backe againe, and ſee that you keep him, vpon your owne perill: and therewithall ſaide to his maieſtie, you muſt content your ſelfe to haue this man now your keeper, vntill my comming backe.

With theſe words he paſſeth foorth, locking the doore after

ter him, leauing his maieſtie with that man hee found there before him. Of whom his maieſtie then enquired, if he were appoynted to be the murtherer of him at that time, and howe farre he was vpon the counſell of that conſpiracie, whoſe anſwer with a trembling and aſtoniſhed voyce and behauiour, was, that as the Lord ſhould iudge him, hee was neuer made acquainted with that purpoſe, but that hee was putte in there perforce, and the doore lockt vpon him, a little ſpace before his maieſties comming: as indeede all the time of the ſaid maſter *Alexanders* menacing his maieſtie, hee was euer trembling, requeſting him for Gods ſake, and with many other atteſtations, not to meddle with his maieſtie, not to doe him any harme. But becauſe maſter *Alexan:* had before his going forth, made the King ſweare he ſhould not cry, nor open any window, his maieſtie commaunded the ſaide fellowe to open the window on his right hand, which he readily did: ſo that although he was put in there to vſe violence on the King, yet God ſo turned his heart, as he became a ſlaue to his priſoner.

While his maieſtie was in this daungerous eſtate, and none of his owne ſeruants nor traine knowing where hee was, and as his maieſties traine was riſing in the Hall from their dinner, the earle of *Gowrie* himſelfe being there preſent with them, one of the earle of *Gowries* ſeruantes commeth haſtily in aſſuring the earle his maiſter, that his maieſtie is horſed, and away through the Inſhe, which the earle reporting to the noble men, and the reſt of his maieſties traine that was there preſent, they all ruſhed out togither at the gate in great haſte: And ſome of his maieſties ſeruantes enquiring of the Porter when his Maieſtie went foorth? The Porter affirmed, that the King was not yet goue foorth. Whereuppon the earle looked very angerly vpon him, and ſaide, hee was but a liar: yet turning him to the Duke, and to the Earle of *Marre*, ſaid hee ſhould preſently get them certaine worde where his maiеſtie was, and with that, ranne through the cloſe

and

and vp the ſtaires. But his purpoſe indeede, was to ſpeake with his brother, as appeared very well by the circumſtance of time, his brother hauing at that ſame inſtant, left the King in the little ſtudy, and ranne downe the ſtaires in great haſte.

Immediately after the earle commeth backe, running againe to the gate, where the noble men and the reſt were ſtanding in amaze, aſſuring them that the King was gone long ſince out at the backe gate, and if they haſted them not the ſooner, they would not ouertake him: and with that, called for his horſe, whereat they ruſht all together out at the gate, and made toward the Inſhe, crying for all their horſes: paſſing all (as it was the prouidence of God) vnder one of the windowes of that ſtudy, wherein his maieſty was. To whom maiſter *Alexander* very ſpeedily returned, and at his incomming to his maieſtie, caſting his hands abroade in a deſperate maner, ſaide: he could not mend it, his maieſtie behoued to die: and with that offred a garter to binde his maieſties hands, with ſwearing, he behooued to be bound. His maieſtie at that word of binding ſaide, he was borne a free King, and ſhoulde die a free King. Wherevpon, hee griping his maieſtie by the wreſt of the hand, to haue bound him, his maieſtie relieued himſelfe ſodainely of his gripes: wherevpon, as hee put his right hand to his ſword, his maieſtie with his right hand ſeazed vpon both his hand & his ſword, and with his left hand, claſped him by the throate, like as he with his left hand claſpt the King by the throate, with two or three of his fingers in his maieſties mouth, to haue ſtayed him from crying. In this maner of wreſtling, his maieſtie perforce drew him to the window, which he had cauſed the other man before to open vnto him, and vnder the which was paſſing by, at the ſame time, the Kings traine, and the earle of *Gowrie* with them, as is ſaid, and holding out the right ſide of his head, and right elbowe, cried, that they were murdering him there in that treaſonable forme, whoſe voyce being inſtantly heard and knowne by the duke

of *Lennox*, the earle of *Marre*, and the reſt of his Maieſties traine there : the ſaide earle of *Gowrie* euer asking what it meant : And neuer ſeeming any wayes to haue ſeene his maieſtie or heard his voice, they all ruſhed in at the gate together, the Duke and the earle of *Marre* running about to come by that paſſage his maieſtie came in at. But the earle of *Gowrie* and his ſeruants made them for another way vp a quiet turnepecke, which was euer condemned before, and was only then left open (as appeared) for that purpoſe.

And in this meane time, his Maieſtie, with ſtruggling and wraſtling with the ſaide maiſter *Alexander*, had brought him perforce out of that ſtudy, the doore whereof, for haſte, he had left open at his laſt in-comming, and his maieſtie hauing gotten (with long ſtrugling) the ſaid maiſter *Alexanders* head vnder his arme, and himſelfe on his knees, his maieſtie droue him backe perforce hard to the doore of the ſame turnepike, and as his maieſtie was throwing his ſword out of his hand, thinking to haue ſtricken him therewith, and then to haue ſhot him ouer the ſtaire, the other fellow ſtanding behinde the Kings backe, and doing nothing but trembling all the time. Sir *Iohn Ramſay* not knowing what way firſt to enter, after hee had heard the Kings crie, by chance findes that turne-pike doore open, and following it vp to the head, enters in into the chamber, and findes his Maieſtie and maſter *Alexander* ſtrugling in that forme, as is beforeſaide : and after hee had twiſe or thriſe ſtricken maiſter *Alexander* with his dagger, the other man withdrew himſelfe, his Maieſtie ſtill keeping his gripes, and holding him cloſe to him : immediatly thereafter he tooke the ſaid maiſter *Alexander* by the ſhoulder, and ſhotte him downe the ſtaire: who was no ſooner ſhot out at the dore, but he was met by ſir *Thomas Erſkine*, and ſir *Hew Herein*, who there vpon the ſtaire ended him: the ſaid ſir *Thomas Erſkine* being caſt behinde the Duke and the earle of *Marre* that ranne about the other way, by occaſion of his medling with the ſaide late

Earle

Earle in the ſtreete, after the hearing of his maieſties crie. For vpon the hearing thereof, hee had claſped the earle of *Gowrie* by the gorget, and calling him vnder his feete, and wanting a dagger to haue ſtricken him with, the ſaide earles men rid the earle their maiſter out of his hands: whereby hee was caſt behinde the reſt, as is ſaide: and miſſing the company, and hearing the ſaide ſir *Iohn Ramſayes* voyce vpon the Turne pecke head, ranne vp to the ſaide Chamber, and cried vpon the ſaide ſir Hew Hereis, and another ſeruant to follow him: where, meeting with the ſaide maſter *Alexander* in the Turne-pecke, he ended him there, as is ſaide: the ſaid maiſter *Alexander* crying for his laſt words, Alas I had not the weight of it. But no ſooner could the ſaide ſir *Thomas*, ſir *Hew*, and an other ſeruant winne into the chamber where his maieſtie was, but that the ſaid earle of *Gowrie*, before they could get the doore ſhut, folowed them in at the back, hauing caſt him directly to come vp that priuy paſſage, as is before ſaide: who at his firſt entrie, hauing a drawne ſword in each hand, and a ſteele bonet on his head, accompanied with ſeauen of his ſeruants, euery one of them hauing in like manner a drawne ſword, cried out with a great oath, that they ſhould all die as traitors. All the which time his maieſty was ſtill in the chamber, who ſeeing the earle of *Gowry* come in with his ſwords in his hands, ſought for maſter *Alexanders* ſworde which had fallen from him at his out-ſhutting at the doore, hauing no ſort of weapons of his owne, as is ſaide; but then was ſhut backe by his owne ſeruants that were there, into the little ſtudy, and the doore ſhut vpon him, who hauing put his maieſty in ſafety, re-encountred the ſaide Earle and his ſeruantes, his Maieſties ſeruants being onely in number foure, to wit, ſir *Hew Hereis*, ſir *Iohn Ramſay*, and one *Wilſon*, a ſeruant of *Iames Erskins*, a brother of the ſaid ſir *Thomas*, the ſaide earle hauing ſeauen of his owne ſeruantes with him: yet it pleaſed God, after many ſtrokes on all hands, to giue his Maieſties ſeruants the victory, the ſaid earle of *Gowrie*

being ſtricken dead with a ſtroke through the hart, which the ſaid ſir *Iohn Ramſay* gaue him, without once crying vpon god; and the reſt of his ſeruants dang ouer the ſtayres, with many hurtes, as in like manner the ſaide ſir *Thomas Erskin*, ſir *Hugh Hereis*, and ſir *Iohn Ramſay*, were all three very ſore hurte and wounded.

But all the time of this fight, the Duke of *Lennox* the earle of *Marre*, & the reſt of his maieſties traine, were ſtriking with great hammers at the vtter doore, where by his maieſtie paſſed vp to the chamber with the ſaid maſter *Alexander*, which alſo he had lockt in his by-comming with his maieſty to the chamber: but by reaſon of the ſtrength of the ſaide double doore, the whole wall being likewiſe of boords, & yeelding with the ſtrokes: it did bide them the ſpace of halfe an houre and more, before they could get it broken and haue entreſſe, who hauing met with his maieſtie, found (beyond their expectation) his Maieſtie deliuered from ſo inminent a peril, and the ſaide late Earle the principall conſpirator lying dead at his maieſties feete. Immediatly thereafter his maieſtie kneeling downe on his knees, in the midſt of his owne ſeruants, and they all kneeling round about him, his Maieſtie out of his owne mouth thanked God of that miraculous deliuerance and victory, aſſuring himſelfe, that God had preſerued him from ſo diſpaired a peril, for the perfiting of ſome greater worke behind, to his glory, and for procuring, by him, the weale of his people that God had committed to his charge. After this the tumult of the Towne hearing of the ſlaughter of the ſaide Earle of *Gowrie* their Prouoſt, and not knowing the maner thereof, nor being on the counſell of his treaſonable attempt, continued for the ſpace of two or three houres thereafter, vntil his maieſty by oft ſpeaking out to them at the windowes, and beckoning to them with his owne hand pacifying them, cauſing the Bailifes and the reſt of the honeſt men of the town to be brought into the chamber, to whom hauing declared the whole forme of

that

that ſtrange accident, he committed the houſe and bodies of the ſaide traytors brethren, to their keeping, vntill his maieſties further pleaſure were knowne. His maieſtie having before his parting out of that Towne, cauſed to ſearch the ſaide Earle of *Gowries* pockets, in caſe any letters that might further the diſcouery of that conſpiracie might be found therein. But nothing was found in them, but a little cloſe parchment bagge, full of magicall characters, and words of inchantment, wherein it ſeemed that he had put his confidence, thinking himſelfe neuer ſafe without them, and therfore euer carried them about with him: being alſo obſerued, that while they were vpon him, his wound whereof he died, bled not, but incontinent after the taking of them away, the bloud guſhed out in great abundance, to the great admiration of the beholders. An infamie which hath followed and ſpotted the race of this houſe, for many diſcents, as is notoriouſly knowne to the whole country. Thus the night was far ſpent, being neere eight houres at euening before his maieſtie could (for the great tumult that was in the Towne) depart out of the ſame. But before his maieſtie had ridden foure miles out of the ſame towards *Falkland*, though the night was very darke and rainie: the whole way was clad with all ſorts of people, both horſe and foote, meeting him with great ioy and acclamation. The frequencie and concourſe of perſons of all degrees to *Falkeland*, the reſt of the weeke, and to *Edenburgh* the next, from all the quarters of the country, the teſtimony of the ſubiects hearty affection and ioy for his Maieſties deliuery, expreſſed euery where, by ringing of bells, bonefires, ſhooting off gunnes of all ſortes, both by ſea and land, &c. with all other things enſuing therevpon, I haue of ſet purpoſe pretermitted, as well knowne to all men, and impertinent to this diſcourſe: contenting my ſelfe with this plaine and ſimple narration: adding onely for explanation and confirmation thereof, the depoſitions of certaine perſons, who were either actors, and eye witneſſes, or immediate

hearers of thoſe things that they declare and teſtifie: wherein, if the Reader ſhall finde any thing differing from this narration, either in ſubſtance or circumſtance, he may vnderſtand the ſame to be vttered by the deponer in his owne behoofe, for obtaining of his Maieſties princely grace and fauour.

Apud Falkland 9. Auguſt. 1600.

In preſence of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Treaſurer, Lord Secretary, Lord Comptroler, Lord Aduocate, the Lord Incheffray, and ſir George Home of Spot, Knights.

IAmes Weimis of *Bogie*, of the age of 26. yeere or thereby, ſworne and examined vpon the forme and maner of behaviour of late *Iohn* Earle of *Gowrie*, the time of his being with him at *Strabran*, or if he had heard the ſaide earle make any motion of the treaſon intended againſt his royall maieſtie, depones, that he neither heard, nor ſaw, any appearance of any ſuch intention in the ſaid earle.

Demaunded, if he was in any purpoſe with the ſaid earle, againſt any matters of curioſitie: depones, that at their being in *Strabran*, ſome of their company found an edder, which being killed, and knowledge thereof comming to the earle, the earle ſaid to this deponer, *Bogie*, if the edder had not beene ſlaine, ye ſhould haue ſeene a good ſporte: for I ſhould haue cauſed hir ſtand ſtill, and ſhe ſhould not haue preſſed away, by pronouncing of one Hebrew word, which in Scottiſh is called *holines*, but the Hebrew word the Deponer remembers not of: and that the earle ſaide, he had put the ſame in practiſe oft before. And this deponer inquiring of the erle, where he got the Hebrew woorde, the earle aunſwered, in a Cabbaliſt of the Iewes, and that it was by Tradition: and the deponer inquiring what a Cabbaliſt meaned: the earle anſwered, it was ſome words which the Iewes had by Tradition, which words were

ſpoken

ſpoken by God to *Adam* in Paradiſe, and therefore were of greater efficacie and force than any wordes which were excogitate ſince by Prophets and Apoſtles. The Deponer enquiring if there were no more requiſite, but the woord. The earle anſwered, that a firme faith in God was requiſite and neceſſary: and that this was no matter of mariell amongſt Scholers, but that all theſe things were naturall. And that the earle ſhewed to this deponer, that he had ſpoken with a man in *Italie*: and firſt hearing (by report) that he was a Nigromancer, and thereafter being informed that he was a very learned man, and a deepe Theologue, he entred in further dealing with him againſt the curioſitie of nature.

Depones further, that the ſaide earle reported to him, that hee being at muſicke, hee fell in company with an other man, who ſtaring in the earles face, ſpake to the reſt of the company, things of him, which hee could neuer attaine vnto, nor be worthy of: and therefore that the earle reproched him, and deſired him to forbeare theſe ſpeeches. And that he met againe with the ſaide man in a like company, who did beginne with the ſame language hee had ſpoken before: and that the earle ſaide to him, my friend, in caſe you will not holde your peace from ſpeaking lies of me, I will make you holde your peace by ſpeaking truth of you, and ſaid vnto him within ſuch a ſpace he ſhould be hanged for ſuch a crime: and ſo it came to paſſe. This Deponer enquiring of the Earle, who told him that? he anſwered merrily, that he ſpake it by gueſſe, and it fell out ſo. And that the earle ſaid further, that it was nothing to make an hearb fleſh which would diſſolue in flies: and that likewiſe it was poſſible that the ſeed of man & woman might be brought to perfection otherwiſe than by the matrix of the woman: and that this deponer counſelled the earle to beware with whom he did communicate ſuch ſpeeches: who anſwered that he would ſpeake them to none, but to great ſchollers, and that he would not haue ſpoken them to this deponer, if

he

he had not knowne him to be a fauorer of him, and a friend of his houſe, and he would not reueale the ſame againe, ſeeing he knew they would be euill interpreted amongeſt the common ſort. *Sic ſubſcribitur, I. Weymis of Bogie.*

Apud Falkland 20. Auguſt 1600.

In preſence of the Lordes Chancellour, Treaſurer, Aduocate: ſir George Home of Spot, ſir Robert Meluill, and ſir Iames Melduill Knights.

MAſter *William Rinde*, ſworne and examined, and demanded, where he firſt did ſee the Characters that were found about my Lorde, depones, that he hauing remained a ſpace in *Venice*, at his returning to *Padua*, did finde in my Lordes pocket, the characters which were found about him at his death: and the deponer enquiring of my Lord, where he had gotten them: my Lord anſwered, that by chance he had copied them himſelfe: and the deponer knowes that the Characters in Latine are my Lordes owne hand-writing, but he knowes not if the Hebrew Characters were written by my Lorde. Depones further, that when my Lord would change his clothes, the Deponer would take the characters out of my Lords pocket, and would ſay to my Lord; Wherefore ſerue theſe? And my Lord would anſwer, can you not let them be? they do you no euill. And further, the Deponer declares, that ſometimes my Lord would forget them, vntill he were out of his Chamber, and would turne backe, as he were in an anger, vntill hee had found them, and put them in his owne pocket: Depones further, that hee was ſundry times purpoſed to haue burned the Characters, were it not that he feared my Lordes wrath and anger: ſeeing when the Deponer would purpoſely leaue them

them ſometimes out of my Lords pocket, my Lord would be in ſuch an anger with the deponer, that for a certaine ſpace he would not ſpeak with him, nor could not find his good countenance. And that (to this deponers opinion) my Lord would neuer be content to want the characters of himſelfe, from the firſt time that the deponer ſaw them in *Padua*, to the houre of my Lords death.

Being demanded for what cauſe my Lord kept the Characters ſo well, depones, that to his opinion, it was for no good, becauſe he heard, that in thoſe parts where my Lord was, they would giue ſundry folkes breeues.

Depones further, that maiſter *Patrike Galloway* let this deponer ſee the characters, ſince that he came to this Towne of *Falkland*, and that he knowes them to be the very ſame characters which my Lord had. Depones alſo, that on monday the fourth of Auguſt, the maiſter *Andrew Henderſoun*, and the deponer remained in my Lords chamber till about tenne houres at euen, and after a long conference betwixt the Lord and the maiſter, my Lord called for *Andrew Henderſoun*, and after ſome ſpeeches with him, diſmiſſed them.

Denies that he knew of the maiſters or *Andrew Henderſons* riding to *Falkland*, and after *Andrews* returne from *Falkeland*, vpon the morrow, howbeit he did ſee him booted, yet hee knew not that he was come from *Falkeland*.

Depones that my Lord being at dinner when the Maiſter came in, the deponer heard my Lord ſay to the maiſter: is the king in the Inſhe? And with that he did riſe, and ſaid, let vs go. But the deponer knowes not what the maiſter ſaide to my Lord.

Being demaunded if he did ſee any kinde of armor or weapons, except ſwords, in the Kings company, depones that he did ſee none.

It being demaunded how the deponer was ſatisfied with my Lords anſwer made to him, concerning the Kings com-

ming to ſaint *Iohnſt oun*, ſaying that hee knewe not how hee came: declares that he thought that my Lord had diſſembled with him, and that he behooued to haue knowne it, ſeeing his brother was come with his Maieſtie before that hee demanded of him, and that hee had conferred with my Lord priuily.

Depones, that he knew not that the maiſter was ridden to *Falkland* vntil after his Maieſties comming to ſaint *Iohnſtoun*, that *Andrew Ruthwen* tolde him, becauſe the deponer inquired of *Andrew Ruthwen*, where the maſter and hee had bin, and that *Andrew* anſwered, they had been in *Falkland*: and that the maiſter hauing ſpoken with the King his maieſty, came forward with them, and that this conference betwixt the deponer and *Andrew Ruthwen* was in the yeard when my Lord was there. And *Andrew Ruthwen* ſhewed to the deponer, that *Andrew Henderſoun* was directed by the maſter, to ſhew my Lord, that his Maieſtie was comming.

Depones alſo, that in his opinion, the maiſter could not haue drawne the King to my Lords houſe, without my Lordes knowledge: and that when hee heard the tumult, hee was reſolued in his heart the maiſter had done his maieſtie wrong, and that no true Chriſtian can thinke otherwiſe, but that it was an high treaſon attempted againſt his Highneſſe by the maſter and the Lord.

Depones alſo, that to his opinion, the Kings whole company was within a dozen of men.

Sic ſubſcribitur. M. W. Rind.

22. Auguſt. 1600.

Maiſter *William Rind* ſworne and re-examined, if euer hee heard the Earle of *Gowrie* vtter his opinion, anent the duetie of a wiſe man, in the execution of an high enterpriſe: declares, that being out of the country, he had diuerſe times heard him reaſon in that matter, and that hee was euer of that opinion, that he was not a wiſe man, that hauing intended

ded the execution of an high and dangerous purpoſe, communicate the ſame to any but to himſelfe, becauſe keeping it to himſelfe, it could not be diſcouered nor diſappointed: which the depon^er declared before vnrequired to the Controller, and Maiſter *William Cowper* miniſter, at *Perth*: and hearing the depoſitions of *Andrew Hendersoun* read, and being enquired vpon his conſcience, what hee thought of the fact that was committed againſt his Maieſtie, declares, that vpon his ſaluation, that he beleeeues *Andrew Hendersoun* has declared the circumſtances truely.

Sic ſubſcribitur. M.W. Rynd.

Apud Falkland. 20. Auguſt. 1600.

In preſence of the Lordes Chancellour, Treaſurer, Aduocate: Controller, and Sir George Home of Spot, ſir Iames Meluill, Knights.

ANdrew Hendersoun ſworne and examined, and demanded, what purpoſe was betwixt him and the earle of *Gowrie* vppon monday at night the fourth of this inſtant in the ſaide Earles chamber: depones, that the Earle inquired of him what hee would be doing vpon the morne, and hee anſwered, that hee was to ride to *Ruthwen*: the earle ſaid vnto him, you muſt ride to *Falkland* with Maiſter *Alexander* my Brother, and when he directs you backe, ſee that yee returne with all diligence, if he ſend a letter or any other aduertiſement with you.

Depones, that the maiſter directed him to ſend for *Andrew Ruthwen* to be in readineſſe, to ride with them the morrowe at foure houres in the morning.

Declares, that they comming to *Falkeland* about ſeauen

houres in the morning, the Maiſter ſtayed in a lodging beſide the Pallace, and directed the deponer, to ſee what the King was doing: and the deponer finding his Maieſtie in the cloſe comming forth, he paſſed backe, and told the maſter, who immediately addreſſed himſelfe to his Highneſſe, and ſpake with his Maieſtie a good ſpace beneath the Equirie: and after his Maieſtie was on horſe-backe, the maiſter commeth to the deponer, and commaundes him to fetch their horſes, and bade him haſte him, as he loued my Lordes honour and his, and aduertiſe my Lord, that his Maieſtie and hee would be there incontinent, and that his Maieſtie would be quiet: and the deponer enquiring of the Maſter, if he ſhould go preſently, he bade him leape on and follow him, and not to go away vntill he ſpake with the King, and the Maiſter hauing ſpoken with the King at a breach of the Parke wall, he turned backe and bade the deponer ride away, and the deponer making his returne in all poſſible haſte to Saint *Iohnſtoun*, he found my Lord in his chamber, about tenne houres, who left the company he was ſpeaking with, and came to the deponer, and asked, hath my brother ſent a letter with you? The deponer anſwered, No: but they will be all heere incontinent, and bade the deponer deſire my Lord, to cauſe prepare the dinner. Immediately thereafter my Lord tooke the deponer to the cabinet, & asked at him, how his Maieſty took with the maſter his brother? The deponer anſwered, very well, and that his Maieſtie laide his hand ouer the maſters ſhoulder. Thereafter my Lord enquired if there were many at the hunting with the King: the deponer anſwered, that he tooke no heede, but they who were accuſtomed to ride with his Maieſtie, and ſome Engliſhmen, were there: and that my Lorde enquired what ſpeciall men were with his Maieſtie, and that the deponer anſwered, he did ſee none but my lord Duke. And within an houre thereafter, when the deponer came in from his owne houſe, the erle bade him put on his ſecret and plaite ſleeves, for he had an hie-land

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man to take, which the deponer did incontinent: and about twelue houres, when the deponer was going out to his owne houſe to dinner, the Steward came to him and tolde him, that *George Cragingelt* was not well, and was laine downe, deſired him to tarry and take vp my Lords dinner: and about halfe an houre after twelue, my Lord commanded him to take vp the firſt ſeruice. And when the deponer was commanded to take vp the ſecond ſeruice, the maſter and *William Blaire* came into the Hall to my Lord.

The deponer remembreth himſelfe, that *Andrew Ruthwen* came before the maiſter a certaine ſpace, and ſpake with my Lord quietly at the Table, but heard not the particular purpoſe that was amongeſt them. And ſo ſoone as the maiſter came to the Hall, my lord, and the whole company roſe from the Table: and the deponer hearing the noyſe of their forthgoing, ſuppoſed they were going to make breakes for *Maconilduy*: and the deponer ſent his boy for his gauntlet and ſteele bonnet: and ſeeing my Lorde paſſe to the Inſhe, and not to the ſhoe gate, the Deponer did caſt the gauntlet into the Pantry, and cauſed his boy to take his ſteele bonnet to his owne houſe: and he followed my Lorde to the Inſhe, and returning backe with his Maieſtie to the lodging, being directed to get drinke. And the maiſter came to the Deponer, and bade him cauſe maiſter *William Rinde* to ſend him vppe the key of the Gallery chamber, who paſſed vp and deliuered the key to the maſter: and immediately my Lord followed vp, and did ſpeake with the maiſter, and came downe againe, and directed maiſter *Thomas Cranſtone* to the deponer, to come to his Lordſhip in his Maieſties Chamber. And that my Lord directed him to goe to the Gallery to his brother, and immediately my Lord followed vp, and commaunded the Deponer to bide there with his brother, and to do any thing that hee bade him: The deponer enquired at the maiſter, what haue ye to do ſir? The maiſter anſwered, ye muſt goe in here,

and tarry vntill I come backe, for I will take the key with mee. So he locked the deponer in the round within the chamber, and tooke the key with him. Shortly thereafter, the maiſter returned, and the Kings maieſtie with him to the ſaid cabinet, in the round: and the maiſter opening the doore, entered with the King into the ſaid round: and at his very entry couering his head, pulled out the deponers dagger, and held the ſame to the Maieſties breaſt, ſaying: Remember ye of my fathers murther? Yee ſhall now die for it: and minting to his Highneſſe hart with the dagger, the deponer threw the ſame out of his maiſters hand: and ſwore, that as God ſhall iudge his ſoule, if the maiſter had retained the dagger in his hand the ſpace that a man may goe ſixe ſteppes, he would haue ſtricken the King to the hilts with it: but wanting the dagger, and the Kings maieſtie giuing him a gentle anſwere, hee ſaide to the Kings maieſtie with abhominable oathes, that if hee woulde keepe ſilence, nothing ſhould aile him, if hee would make ſuch promiſe to his brother, as they would craue of him: and the Kings maieſtie inquiring what promiſe they would craue: he anſwered that he would bring his brother. So he goes forth, and lockes the doore of the round vppon his maieſtie and the deponer: hauing firſt taken oath of the King, that hee ſhould not crie, nor open the windowe.

And his Maieſtie enquiring of the deponer what hee was: he anſwered, A ſeruant of my Lords. And his Maieſtie asking of the deponer, if my Lord would doe any euill to him? The deponer anſwered, As God ſhall iudge my ſoule, I ſhall die firſt. And the deponer preſſing to haue opened the window, the maiſter entred, and ſaid: Sir, there is no remedy, by God you muſt die: and hauing a looſe garter in his hand, preſſed to haue bound his Maieſties hands, and the deponer pulled the garter out of maiſter *Alexander* his hand. And then the maiſter did put one of his hands in his Maieſties mouth, to haue ſtayed him to ſpeake, and held his other arme about his

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Highneſſe necke : and that this deponer pulled the maiſters hand from his Highneſſe mouth, and opened the window: & then his Maieſtie cried out thereat, whereupon his Highneſſe ſeruant came in at the gate, and this deponer did runne and open the doore of the Turnepecke head, whereat *Iohn Ramſay* entred: the deponer ſtood in the chamber till he ſaw *Iohn Ramſay* giue the maiſter a ſtroke: and thereafter priuily conueied himſelfe downe the Turnepecke to his owne houſe : and the deponers wife enquiring of him, what the fray meaned? The deponer anſwered, that the Kings Maieſtie would haue beene twice ſticked, had not he relieued him.

Sic ſubſcribitur Andrew Henderſoun
with my hand.

Further, the ſaid *Andrew Henderſon* depones, that after his returning from *Falkland* on the fift of this inſtant, maiſter *Iohn Montchrief* enquiring of him where he had beene? He anſwered, that he had bin beyond the bridge of *Erne*, and ſaies, that he gaue that anſwer to maſter *Iohn*, becauſe my lord commanded him to let no man know that hee was to ride to *Falkland*: and that my Lords direction to him, was, to come backe with his brother maiſter *Alexanders* aunſwere, and to leaue *Andrew Ruthwen* to waite vpon the maiſter.

Sic ſubſcribitur Andrew Henderſoun
with my hand.

Further, the ſaid *Andrew Henderſon* depones, that when he had taken the maſters hand out of the kings maieſties mouth, and was opening the window, maiſter *Alexander* ſaid to him, Wilt thou help? Wo betide thee, thou wilt make vs all die.

Sic ſubſcribitur Andrew Henderſoun
with my hand.

FINIS.